



COMMANDO

Any Time, Any Place

Vol. 54, Issue 42

16th Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Nov. 18, 2005

Wingman



0 DUIs
0 Drinks under 21
1 Drink an hour
3 Drinks a night

Court-martial

Airman steals a vehicle drunk on two separate occasions See Page 3



Retired Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Fisk speaks on the Son Tay Raid See Page 4

Angel Tree

Base program allows Airmen to give less fortunate children the Christmas they deserve See Page 8



Commandos defeat the Eglin Eagles 69-63 See Page 21

Next issue

There will be no *Commando* newspaper next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday

Weekend Forecast

Today	Sat.	Sun.
High 62, Low 37 Partly cloudy	High 65, Low 38 Partly cloudy	High 67, Low 40 Sunny



Photograph by Airman 1st Class Ali Flisek

Loud and clear

Tactical Air Control Party Airmen set up an antenna as part of the TACP Lighting Challenge taking place this week.

'Captain Kirk' wins space award

by Airman 1st Class James Dickens
16th SOW Public Affairs

The National Space Club Florida Committee honored a Hurlburt Field captain Thursday at the Florida Space 2005 conference at Kennedy Space Center.

Capt. Kirk Riggs, Air Force Special Operations Comm-

and, was awarded the inaugural Florida National Defense Space Award in the Apollo Saturn V Center.

Captain Riggs worked in the 16th Operations Group as the space weapons officer for group tactics during the time of the award before moving on to be the AFSOC air and space operations chief of space training and tactics.

"We created this award to honor a military person working in Florida doing something incredible to fulfill our national security mission," said Jim Banke, NSCFC vice chairman.

Captain Riggs produced a Web-based Global Positioning System communications-planning tool that allowed special operations aircrews to

precisely hit targets over enemy territory.

"Riggs figured out a way to keep men and women safe overseas," said Mr. Banke. "He was also selected to write the Air Force operating instruction."

Ronald Segal, under secretary of the Air Force, presented the award to Captain Riggs.

AFSOC, AFMC meet to resolve acquisition issues

by Master Sgt. Kevin Owen
16th SOW Public Affairs

A secretary of the Air Force acquisition capabilities program execution review and major command day was held Hurlburt Field Nov. 10 to resolve acquisition issues for several programs important to Air Force Special Operations Command and its demanding mission.

This capabilities program execution review and MAJCOM day brought together Undersecretary of the Air Force

for Acquisition Blaise Durante, Gen. Bruce Carlson, Air Force Materiel Command commander, Lt. Gen. Michael Wooley, AFSOC commander, Lt. Gen. Donald Wetekem, deputy chief of staff for installations and several logistics center commanders community to resolve on-going issues in acquisition and sustainment programs affecting the two commands.

Most of the visit was spent in the confines of AFSOC headquarters' briefing rooms and video-conferencing facilities reviewing programs key to AFSOC's

missions.

Among the key areas of discussion were the battlefield air operations kit, C-130 center wing box procurement and avionics modernization programs, and additional requirement for the CV-22 Osprey.

These meetings allowed the leaders to fix some issues and to decide what issues need further review at even higher levels.

"It gives me visibility into what the

See *AFMC*, Page 6

Home of America's Air Commandos

Sharpen your saw

Principle of balance keeps Airmen ready for combat

by Lt. Col.
Mary Ann Behne
16th HMXS commander

My favorite habit from the book by author Stephen Covey, "The Seven Habits of Highly Successful People", is number seven: sharpen the saw.

It's the principle of balance and self-renewal and includes the physical, mental, social/emotional and spiritual.

I see it as the maintenance and reconstitution of the greatest asset we have in special operations – our people. A big part of fighting and winning our nation's wars is making sure that the people, and the equipment, are ready for combat. Mr. Covey uses this story in his book as an example of the principle:

Suppose you were to come upon someone in the

woods working feverishly to saw down a tree.

"What are you doing?" you ask.

"Can't you see?" comes the impatient reply. "I'm saving down this tree."

"You look exhausted." You exclaim. "How long have you been at it?"

"Over five hours," he returns, "and I'm beat! This is hard work."

"Well, why don't you take a break for a few minutes and sharpen that saw?" you inquire. "I'm sure it would go a lot faster."

"I don't have time to sharpen the saw," the man says emphatically. "I'm too busy sawing!"

We have to take the time to take care of ourselves and sharpen the saw in order to be combat ready.

We need to be physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually ready to deploy

Aimpoint

Take best care of our wingmen, families and resources

and execute our mission on a moment's notice.

Take your fitness program seriously – be fit to fight.

Grow as a professional Airman by completing your professional military education or working on an advanced degree.

Maintain your emotional and social relationships – spend time with your family or type an e-mail to a friend from your last duty station.

The spiritual dimension is personal, and for some, a private part of their lives –

don't neglect that aspect of your personal maintenance either.

All of these things keep us balanced and make us much healthier and better able to handle the stress of our ops tempo and, ultimately, more combat capable.

Don't be the guy with the saw from Mr. Covey's story. Take a step back and look to see if you've fallen into that trap. I don't know of any group of folks anywhere who work harder than the people at this base.

In this high ops tempo, sometimes it's hard to find the time to sharpen the saw, but we can't afford not to make it a habit. We have a no-fail mission.

Editor's Note: The Commando in no way endorses "The Seven Habits of Highly Successful People."

Celebrating Native American History Month

by Master Sgt. Norman Williams
16th SOW MEO

During November, we remember the first Americans and celebrate with them their culture during Native American History Month.

Throughout the history of the United States, Native Americans have been an integral part of the American character. Tribal traditions have brought values and ideas that have become ingrained in the American spirit.

Native Americans introduced the world to products that help feed millions of people, such as tomatoes, corn and potatoes.

The American Indian experience is central to the story of the United States since before the beginning of our republic.

Native Americans served in the Revolutionary war and following major conflicts. During World War I, approximately 12,000 Native Amer-

In World War II, more than 21,000 fought against the Axis forces, compiling a distinguished record of courage and sacrifice.

icans served with the American Expeditionary Force, and many distinguished themselves while fighting in Europe.

In World War II, more than 21,000 fought against the Axis forces, compiling a distinguished record of courage and sacrifice.

Those in the Army Air Forces saw duty as pilots, navigators, gunners, bombardiers and transport crews in all theaters of the war.

We are also grateful to the Navajo Code Talkers for their service during World War II. Participating in every assault the U.S. Marines conducted in the Pacific from 1942-1945, the Navajo Code Talkers relayed messages that helped our nation and the

Allies secure victory.

The office of Indian Affairs reported in November 1945 that 71 Air Medals, 51 Silver Stars, 47 Bronze Stars, 34 Distinguished Flying Crosses and two Medals of Honor were awarded to Native Americans who fought in World War II.

Native Americans' service to this country continued when the Air Force became a separate service. They served the Air Force in Korea, Vietnam, Grenada and the Balkans.

Today, that proud tradition continues as Native Americans in Afghanistan and Iraq bravely defend our country in the war on terrorism, helping to spread liberty around the world.

16th SOW Aimpoints

- Fight and win
- Take best care of our wingmen, families and resources
- Become the next generation of Air Force and Air Commando leaders

Disclaimer

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Submitting articles

The deadline for submissions to the COMMANDO is noon Monday for briefs the week of publication. Articles may be submitted on IBM format computer disk or via electronic mail. Non-electronic submissions must be typed, double-spaced. All submissions must include the name and telephone number of a person to call.

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to the base commander for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the COMMANDO. Other questions will be answered by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you and perhaps improve their process. However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give the commander a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.

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Wingman
0-0-1-3: Designated driver for buddies – \$0
Waiting until age 21 to drink – \$0
Time it takes to make the right decision – 1 minute
Time it takes to call Airmen Against Drunk
Driving – 3 minutes

DUI Tracker



Nov. 10-16: 1 DUI
This year: 26
DUIs for 2004: 42
Last DUI: 16th Security Forces Squadron, Nov. 13
Days since last DUI: 3
16th OG...37
16th MXG...17
16th MSG...3
16th MDG...316

Totals are current as of Nov. 16.
Don't Drink and Drive. Call AADD at 884-8844
Potential saves this year: 666

Quarterly awards presented

by **Airman 1st Class James Dickens**
16th SOW Public Affairs

Eight Hurlburt Field personnel were singled out as top performers during the wing quarterly awards ceremony Nov. 10 in The Soundside.

Company grade officer

Capt. Edward Lennon,
16th Special Operations
Squadron

Senior NCO

Master Sgt. Michael
Kimzey,
16th Security Forces
Squadron

NCO

Staff Sgt. Joyce Spillers,
16th Comptroller
Squadron

Airman

Airman 1st Class

Matthew Pistel,
716th Maintenance
Squadron

Honor guard member

Senior Airman Kenneth
Flores,
16th Equipment
Maintenance Squadron

Civilian GS 9-12

Robert Cohn,
16th Medical Operations
Squadron

Civilian GS 1-8

Cathy Holmes,
16th MDOS

WG/WS/WL

Robert Nuckles,
16th Component
Maintenance Squadron

"I owe it to my supervisors," said Airman 1st Class Matthew Pistel, 716th MXS. "They taught me good values and work ethics, and I think that's what helped me

to win."

Airman Pistel not only received the award to honor a job well done, but more than \$600 in prizes.

Cathy Holmes, 16th MDOS, also attributed her success to having, "absolutely wonderful supervisors that were really good people to work for."

"We can't do our mission without you all," said Col. Paul Harmon, 16th Special Operations Wing vice commander. "We all know the ops tempo is great across the base, but thank you to the supervisors who took the time to nominate their people."

Editors note: Senior Airman Heidi Davis, 16th SOW Public Affairs, contributed to this article.

Chief Murray opens new dorm

by **Master Sgt. Kevin Owen**
16th SOW Public Affairs

The chief master sergeant of the Air Force made a quick stop at Hurlburt Field to officially open the base's newest dormitory Nov. 7.

Chief Master Sgt. Gerald Murray with the help of some occupants cut the ribbon that officially opened the facility.

The new design referred to as the 4-in-1 dorm highlights new standards for those Airmen living on base. The 51,000 square-foot, \$8.6 million facility provides Airmen with the privacy of their own 129-square-foot bedroom and a bathroom. Also, it provides a sitting area, kitchen and laundry room that four Airmen can share.

"We have seen the standards for Air Force dormitories evolve from three to a room to the privacy Airman are being afforded today," said Chief Murray. "Quality of life is a top issue for the chief of staff. This dormitory is an example of the

commitment to those efforts."

Chief Murray took a few minutes to look at rooms and common areas in the new dormitory. He also found time present coins to a number of Airmen.

Chief Murray, who was traveling with several major command command chiefs, took time out for a quick lunch at the Riptide Dining Facility before the ribbon cutting. A number of hot topics were discussed with Col. Paul Harmon, 16th SOW vice commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Todd Small, 16th SOW command chief, at lunch.

One of the issues Chief Murray discussed during lunch was uniforms. He indicated that new rules relaxing the wear requirements of the physical fitness uniform would be announced soon. He also said that he doesn't expect the Airman's Combat Uniform to be ready for Air Force-wide distribution until fiscal year 2007.

After his visit here, Chief Murray traveled on to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. for his next stop.



Photograph by Master Sgt. Stuart Camp

Take it away

Workers from Northwest Florida Construction prepare for roadway improvements at the intersection of Tully Street and Terry Avenue Saturday afternoon. They used heavy equipment to remove 16 inches of sand, gravel and asphalt. The project was designed to replace asphalt that was falling apart.

Truck theft costs Airman

by **Master Sgt. Kevin Owen**
16th SOW Public Affairs

A 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Airman pleaded guilty to numerous drinking-related crimes at a general court-martial, Nov. 8.

A panel of eight officers sentenced Airman 1st Class Henry Bazan to reduction to the grade of E-1, three months confinement and a bad conduct discharge.

Airman Bazan pleaded guilty to wrongfully appropriating a vehicle on two separate occasions and driving those vehicles while drunk, violating Articles 111 & 121 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Additionally, Airman Bazan pleaded guilty to underage drinking on those occasions, which is a violation of Article

92 of the UCMJ.

Evidence showed that Airman Bazan has an inclination for Ford Rangers. On July 3, he stole a 2002 model of the light-duty pickup truck belonging to another Airman while the vehicle was parked at the Santa Rosa Mall. Then Aug. 9, 2004, he stole a 1987 model from an NCO, while the vehicle was parked in the vicinity of Clark Road near U.S. Highway 98.

At trial, he admitted to being intoxicated while committing these offenses.

"Justice was served in this case. The sentence in this case will send a strong message to Airman Bazan, and hopefully to other Airman that they will be held responsible for their actions," said Capt. James Reed, the 16th SOW attorney who tried the case.

Airman gets 20 days confinement

by **Master Sgt. Kevin Owen**
16th SOW Public Affairs

A 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Airman pleaded guilty at summary court-martial to breaking restriction, Oct. 28th.

Airman Basic Samuel Kuminecz pleaded guilty to leaving Hurlburt Field on two separate occasions in mid-October after being

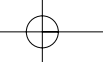
restricted to base as part of an earlier non-judicial punishment action — a violation of Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Col. Timothy Jex, 16th Medical Group commander, sentenced Airman Kuminecz to 20 days confinement.

Summary courts-martial are used to try minor offenses.

Instead of a military judge, an active-duty commissioned officer is appointed to oversee the proceedings. The summary court officer considers the evidence then makes a finding.

If the finding is guilty, the summary court officer considers any additional offered evidence before deciding an appropriate sentence.



Dagger Point: Chief Fisk speaks on the Son Tay rescue mission



"In my day, a lot of guys were drafted. Today, these guys are standing up and saying count me in."



"I would've crawled a mile on broken glass to save our POWs."



Photographs by Airman 1st Class James Dickens
"It may have been a failed mission, but it sent a clear message to the enemy that we would not tolerate how they were treating our troops."

by Capt. Virgil Magee
16th SOW Public Affairs

In May 1970, SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft photographs revealed the existence of a prison camp, less than 25 miles from Hanoi.

On Nov. 21, 1970, at approximately 11:18 p.m., a joint force of Army and Air Force rescue special operators departed Udorn Royal Thailand Air Base, with the objective of rescuing as many as 100 American captives believed to be held there by their North Vietnamese captives.

At the same time, the Navy and Air Force launched diversionary attacks on enemy held territory.

The camp, open and surrounded by rice fields and protected by a sophisticated array of air defense artillery and radar sites, lay dangerously close to the 12th North Vietnamese Army Regiment.

Upon arrival at the camp, the commandos found no prisoners. Now what? What went wrong?

As fate would have it, the intelligence used during the mission planning was not completely accurate. The prisoners had been moved. The commandos had broken into a deserted facility.

Was the mission a success? Was it a failure? Although no prisoners were found in the camp, to this day the raid is considered by many to be successful. The training and preparation across military services paid off with not a single loss of life during the mission.

One of the participants of that day was retired Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Fisk. Born in Waldport, Ore., April 6,

1945, the chief enlisted in the Air Force in March 1966 as a pararescue-man, after declining an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Having been a veteran of multiple rescue missions, he volunteered for the Son Tay raid.

Below are excerpts from an interview the chief took time to give during a recent visit to Hurlburt Field for the 16th Special Operations Wing's 'Through the Eyes of the Commando' series.

Commando: How did you come to be a part of the Son Tay rescue mission?

Fisk: The call came around for volunteers for a mission. We didn't have the details, as a matter of fact we didn't have many details at all at that point. I volunteered. The next morning we went to the armory to draw our weapons. A C-130 was on the flightline waiting for us. We were the only ones onboard.

Commando: Where did you go from there?

Fisk: We landed in Thailand. Still, we did not have the full details. We boarded a blue Air Force bus and were told to wait. About 2 a.m., the lights came on and we saw team members we thought were back in the States.

Commando: Then what?

Fisk: That's when we were told we were going to Hanoi. You have to understand, we lived for this. I would've crawled a mile on broken glass to save our POWs.

Commando: How did things go from there?

Fisk: The mission was executed flawlessly, with the exception of the

intelligence we were given.

Commando: What was it like to realize the POWs had been moved?

Fisk: Well, it was certainly somewhat of a shock. After all the preparation to only find that they had been moved was awful.

However, it gave them hope. It let them know that as a country, we would not abandon them, we would not leave our people behind.

It may have been a failed mission, but it sent a clear message to the enemy that we would not tolerate how they were treating our troops.

Commando: What was it like coming home after the war?

Fisk: It was horrible. We were told not to go downtown in uniform. I remember standing in a line and being called a baby killer. I was spit on.

We were isolated to a degree. I realized at that point that some people have no idea of what war is. They don't understand that the troops protect them, and provide the opportunity for them to sleep peacefully at night. They don't understand that the troops even protect their rights to criticize and protest.

Commando: How do you see the today's troops?

Fisk: I think these guys are fantastic. They are doing a lot more than we did in my day. Even while not having the numbers we did. The troops today are protecting freedom around the world and providing freedom in the cradle of civilization. In my day, a lot of guys where drafted. Today, these guys are standing up and say-

See **FISK**, Page 6



U.S. Navy photograph by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Randall Damm
A U.S. Sailor mans a watch post on Khawr Al Arnaya Oil Terminal in the Persian Gulf. The terminal, located off the coast of Iraq, is one of two major platforms that export the majority of the country's oil.

Brothers In Arms

Army

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Multi-national forces used multiple intelligence sources and tips from concerned citizens to locate a known al Qaeda in Iraq safe house harboring terrorists and foreign fighters Nov. 7.

Upon arrival at the terrorist safe house, multi-national forces detained numerous terrorists and foreign fighters; among them was Sadiq Ayadah Husayn Matar (aka Abu Ahmed), the al Qaeda in Iraq Emir of Sadah.

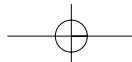
Marines

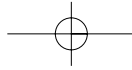
MARINE BARRACKS, MANILA, Philippines – Approximately 50 Marines with 4th and 12th Marine Regiments, and III Marine Expeditionary Force Tactical Exercise Control Group are conducting a coordinated sequence of Command Post Exercises with the Philippine Marine Corps here Nov. 8 – 18.

The CPXs, called Marine Air Ground Task Force Tactical Warfare Simulation, provides a common stage of engagement and security cooperation across numerous nations in the Asian-Pacific region.

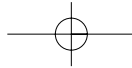
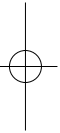
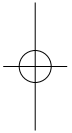
Navy

NORFOLK, Va. – More than 1,000 Sailors aboard the guided-missile destroyers USS Mahan and USS Mitscher and the frigate USS Hawes, returned to their homeport at Naval Station Norfolk Nov. 15 from supporting the global war on terrorism.





ARMED FORCES COMM INC
FULL/CS RISK
612424
5 X 11.66





Photograph by Master Sgt. Kevin Owen

Chiefs select

Eight of Hurlburt Field's chiefs select stand in review for the chief's group after receiving notification of promotion.

AFMC, Continued from Page 1

key issues are for AFSOC. There are a whole host of issues: everything from the 30mm gun to electric cars," said General Carlson. "I can't fix everything, but if I know that the top issues are certain things, I can put all my focus on those things. The second thing it does is it gives me an opportunity to get educated to a greater detail. I can get all the players talking about the specific issues, so I can really better grasp how those issues are affecting the interested parties."

According to the event organizers, the program review also allows AFMC to leverage the investments made into one command's particular programs across the Air Force to users of that specific and similar equipment.

"This is a very complex business," said General Carlson. "It demands instantaneous communication, very highly reliable systems and systems that can respond quickly. We need to make sure that we coordinate between all the players so that we are building the right stuff, and it meets the needs of the broader range of users."

FISK, Continued from Page 4

ing count me in. The troops today are truly the greatest generation America has ever produced.

Chief Fisk also has another distinction. In May 1975, when Cambodian communist forces hijacked the SS Mayaguez, an American ship, he was one of the commandos charged with recovering the ship and rescuing the U.S. Marines aboard.

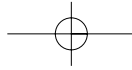
During the final minutes of that operation, he left the rescue helicopter he was onboard to recover the body of a fallen U.S. Marine.

During the search, he exchanged fire with a Khmer Rouge sniper.

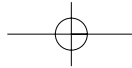
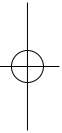
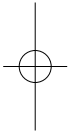
Unbeknownst to him, at the time, he was the last American serviceman to actively engage the enemy in Southeast Asia.

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CS/HOMELAND HERO

612428
5 X 7.00



ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/DILLARDS SALE
612420
5 X 11.66



'Angel Tree' assists base children

by **Jamie Haig**
16th SOW Public Affairs

At the entrance of the base exchange, there's a sparkling tree covered with paper angels. It's the Angel Tree, designed to give the less fortunate children of Hurlburt Field and Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., the Christmas they deserve.

The Angel Tree program, a joint effort between the first sergeants and the Hurlburt Field Company Grade Officers' Council, officially began Monday during a kick-off ceremony held at the base exchange.

There are nearly 200 angels on the tree, each with

a name, age and desires of the children in need from both bases. Sixty-five of the names are children from Keesler, AFB.

"There are Airmen on base who have two or three children and aren't even senior airmen," said Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Slack, 16th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "Some can't afford the gifts their children want, and this gives them a helping hand."

"It's a completely anonymous program," said 1st Lt. Corrie Patch, Air Force Special Operations Command. "The children don't know they've been nominated and the donors don't

know who the children are. It's like playing Santa Claus."

The shoppers pick an ornament off the tree, and after buying the requested gift, return the unwrapped package and ornament to a box behind the tree by Dec. 9.

"The spending limit is \$50," said 1st Lt. Sherry Souriolli, 4th Special Operations Squadron. "If you wish to spend more, we ask that you pick another angel."

Groups, squadrons and private businesses are invited to take part in the giving. Cash donations can be made to the CGOC.

"We use the donated money to purchase wrapping supplies," said Chief Slack. "Or if a child asks for an expensive present, we use the money to purchase little items so they don't only receive one gift."

Parents are encouraged to bring their children in and allow them to pick an angel.

"Children seem to enjoy buying gifts for other kids," said Lieutenant Patch. "They can relate to what these kids want."

In past years, every angel has been adopted, said Chief Slack. If you would like to help, please contact your first sergeant.

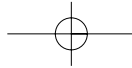


**BUCKLE UP
FOR SAFETY**

**DAVID G
THOMPSON/GEICO
CS/CAR INSURANCE
599050
2 X 7.00**

**ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/ATTN: FL TRIC
612418
3 X 7.00**

ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/AF CLUBS MEMB
612434
5 X 11.66

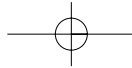


Squadron-level quarterly award winners

The following individuals were selected as squadron-level quarterly award winners for the period July 1 – Aug. 31.

ARMED FORCES COMM
INC
CS/DIRECTOR OF L
612426
2 X 6.00

ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/YOURS, MINE &
612423
3 X 7.00



CROWN CARPET CLEAN-
ERS
CS RHP/DON'T GET

SOUTHERN CLASSIC GUN
CS/PENS GUN SHOW
599036

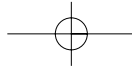
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OF PRAISE
ASSEM
CS/SANCTU-
ARY OF

AUDIO
EXPRES-
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CS/MOBILE
STEREO
585105

ARMED FORCES COMM INC
CS/DEPLOYMENT AS
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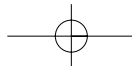
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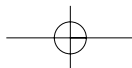


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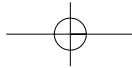
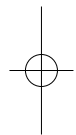
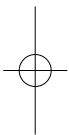
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Pink, blue

*Hurlburt announces
its new babies*

Girls

Weigh Medicare Part D facts before signing

**Courtesy of Air Force
Print News**

WASHINGTON – Medicare's new prescription drug plan opens today, but Tricare Management Activity officials encourage beneficiaries to weigh the facts before deciding whether to sign on to the plan.

Coverage under the new prescription drug plan, called Medicare Part D, begins Jan. 1 and is open to anyone already enrolled in Medicare.

This is the first time Medicare has offered prescription drug coverage for its estimated 42 million beneficiaries.

Tricare officials estimate about 1.7 million of the 9.2 million Tricare beneficiaries are eligible to enroll in the new plan, but emphasize it is not the most prudent choice for everyone.

In most cases, there's no added value for Tricare beneficiaries to buy the new drug

coverage, officials said.

Tricare generally pays as much or more than a standard Medicare prescription plan. Unlike many non-DoD Medicare beneficiaries, those under Tricare already have what officials call a "robust" pharmacy benefit.

It charges no monthly premiums and requires minimal co-payments for drugs received through the Tricare Mail Order Pharmacy and retail network.

In addition, there is no cost for prescription drugs received at military treatment facilities, officials said.

The one group of eligible Tricare beneficiaries who may benefit from the new Medicare Plan D are those with limited incomes and assets, officials said.

This includes beneficiaries who qualify for Medicaid. The new Medicare Part D drug plan options will vary by location and beneficiaries living overseas are not eligi-

ble. The best way for Tricare-Medicare beneficiaries to determine if the new plan is best for them is to evaluate a variety of factors.

These include monthly premiums, deductibles, co-payments and drug coverage of several prescription drug plans, including the Tricare pharmacy program, officials said.

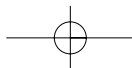
To help eligible Tricare beneficiaries make this decision, Tricare and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are providing Medicare Part D educational and enrollment information.

This information is posted on the Tricare and Medicare Web sites or by calling (800) MEDICARE.

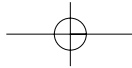
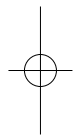
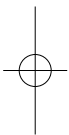
The enrollment period for the new prescription drug coverage plan continues through May 15.

After that, eligible beneficiaries will have an annual window between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31 to sign up.

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Photograph by Jeffrey Morrison, 16th OSS

A Ranger Special Operations Vehicle equipped with M-240, M-60, M-14, M-16 machine guns, was one of the static displays at Hurlburt Field's first 'Airmen's Night Out' Nov. 8.

First 'Airmen's Night Out' big success

by Jamie Haig
16th SOW Public Affairs

The first ever 'Airmen's Night Out', Nov. 8 drew about 100 Airmen for the showing of "Black Hawk Down" in the base theater.

The free showing, open to airmen to senior airmen, was followed by a question and answer period with retired Master Sgt. Timothy Wilkinson.

Sergeant Wilkinson was part of the search and rescue team that went to get trapped helicopter crews out of Mogadishu, Somalia, after they were shot down Oct. 3, 1993, in an attempt to capture local warlord Mohammed Aidid.

"This is a powerful movie," said 16th Special Operations Wing Vice Commander Col. Paul Harmon.

"Sergeant Wilkinson is a recipient of the Air Force Cross and the Purple Heart. He's one of America's

heroes," he said.

Sergeant Wilkinson was asked to speak after the movie to help enlighten younger Airmen on base of what life can be like on the battlefield and abroad.

"Airmen's Night Out is a chance for the young Airmen to utilize some of the services on base," said Master Sgt. Todd Miller, 16th Operation Support Squadron.

Chief Master Sgt. Todd Small, 16th SOW command chief, had the idea to hold a night where Airmen could enjoy themselves on base at no cost to them.

"We'd like to do this every four months," said Chief Small. "We'd like them to give us their thoughts on what kind of event to do next time."

"This was great," said Airman 1st Class Gavin Grubofski, 16th Comptroller Squadron. "It was great of Sergeant Wilkinson to share his experiences."

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Defining OPSEC

Operations security – The process of denying adversaries information about friendly capabilities and intentions by identifying, controlling and protecting generally unclassified evidence that is associated with sensitive operations and activities.

Week in history

The following is a list of extraordinary events that occurred this week in military history:

Nov. 19, 1964 – Capt. Edwin Eason, a T-28 pilot, was killed in Vietnam. He's the namesake for Hurlburt Field's Eason Hangar.

Nov. 21, 1964 – Twenty-two streets on Hurlburt Field renamed in honor of Air Commandos killed in Vietnam.

Nov. 23, 2003 – An MH-53 PAVE LOW helicopter crashed in Afghanistan during Operation Mountain Resolve killing Maj. Steven Plumhoff, Army Sgt. Maj. Phillip

Albert, Tech. Sgt. William Kerwood, Tech. Sgt. Howard Walters and Staff Sgt. Thomas Walkup. Sergeants Kerwood, Walters and Walkup were assigned to the 20th Special Operations Squadron

Nov. 24, 1963 – Capt. Howard Cody and 1st Lt. Otis Lielmanis died when their B-26 crashed near friend-

ly ground forces during their support of a operation southwest of Saigon, Vietnam. Hurlburt Field's Cody Avenue and Lielmanis Avenue are named in their honor.

Nov 26, 1968 – Capt. James Fleming, 20th SOS, flew his UH-1 helicopter to the rescue of a six-man special forces team in Vietnam.

MDG begins vaccination

Courtesy of the 16th MDG

The 16th Medical Group is vaccinating high-risk patients and deploying personnel for the flu.

The existing stock of the vaccine can't support the entire Hurlburt Field community. Medical group officials expect more shipments of the vaccine to come soon.

The highest risk patients will have priority for the first two weeks of the campaign.

High risk patients include:

- Children 6-23 months old

- People age 50 and older

- Pregnant women

- People 2-64 years old with chronic high risk medical conditions

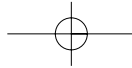
- Household members of high-risk patients and out-of-home caregivers of infants under the age of 2 years

For more information, call the public health office at 881-5625.

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JAMES
GIVEN
CS/MEN

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Military

Mission support

The 16th Mission Support Squadron Military Personnel Flight is scheduled for a Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System upgrade Dec. 6.

They will be unable to issue ID cards, perform DEERS data updates or reset Common Access Card pin numbers. Please call Master Sgt. Bill Hammel at 884-5320.

Vehicle information

Personnel operating government owned vehicles must have an *Air Force Form 2296* on file with the 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron. Civilians possessing a GOV license must have their physical fitness inquiry *OF form 345* reviewed by their unit vehicle control officer every four years.

For more information, call your unit VCO or the 16th LRS Operator Record & Licensing Section at 884-7321.

Community

Blood drive

The 16th Medical Group is sponsoring a blood drive 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Nov. 28 at the commissary parking lot. To schedule an appointment, e-mail mark.noon@hurlburt.af.mil or charise.harper-williams@hurlburt.af.mil.

Main Gate

The west bound merge lanes from Hurlburt Field toward Navarre are no longer merge lanes, but are now traffic signal controlled right-turn lanes.

Making a right-hand turn on red is no longer permitted.

For more information, call 16th Security Forces Squadron at 884-6185.

Tops in Blue

Tops in Blue is offering a free night of family entertainment 7 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Freedom Hangar. The talented group of active duty personnel will showcase a creative blend of musical numbers. Admission is free and open to all government ID card holders and their guests.

For more information, call community programs at (888) 801-7210, extension 8508842189# or e-mail charles.lowrey@hurlburt.af.mil.

Single parents

Enjoy an informal luncheon meeting noon - 1 p.m. Nov. 29, to share with other the joys and challenges of being a single parent. Lunch is provided. Register by today at the family support center or call 884-5441.



Photograph by Master Sgt. Stuart Camp

Parade

Staff Sgt. Andrew Hall, 16th Helicopter Maintenance Squadron, marches Nov. 11 with other member of Team Hurlburt at the Veterans Day parade around Santa Rosa Mall. The base's contingent included more than two dozen Airmen.

Bible study

The Protestant Women's Bible study has started a new Bible study 9:30-11 a.m. Nov. 9 - Dec. 7 at the base chapel. Childcare will be provided. For more information, call Angela Coburn at 884-6638.

New Year's Eve

Celebrate New Year's at The Soundside. The members-only price is \$50 and includes dinner, entertainment, champagne toast and breakfast. Social begins at 7 p.m. Free transportation will be available from The Soundside to the visiting quarters for members. For more information, call 884-7507.

Tree lighting

The Hurlburt Field annual tree lighting ceremony is 4:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at the air park. Winners of the squadron greeting card contest and children's holiday ornament contest will be announced at the ceremony. Pictures with Santa will be at the youth center following the ceremony. For more information, e-mail charles.lowrey@hurlburt.af.mil.

Youth center

The newly-renovated and expanded youth center will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 13. The additional space includes a science lab, theater, cyber lounge and homework room.

For more information on the youth program and its benefits, call 884-6355.

Book sale

The Eglin Company Grade Officers' Council is sponsoring a used book sale at the Eglin base library 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Dec. 6. Books, videos and cd's will be sold for a \$1 or less.

The proceeds will be donated to the Give a Child a Christmas program.

For more information, call Capt.

Paul Somers at 883-4281 or Jan Exterkamp at 897-5083.

Palace Chase

Junior officers are encouraged to look into Palace Chase Force Shaping if interested in switching to the Air National Guard. Officers commissioned in the 2002-2003 calendar year will be eligible for consideration by the Force Shaping Board.

The Texas ANG is looking for qualified Air Force Specialty Codes for the 147th Fighter Wing, which will be redesignated as a predator squadron next year.

For more information, call Master Sgt. William Andujar at 884-2729 or visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ret-sep/forceshaping/FSB.htm.

Volunteers needed

The Hurlburt community needs volunteers for the following programs: The Airman's Attic, family services, mentors, and more. For more information contact Dee Dee Rodriguez at 884-1533 or email to deedee.rodriguez.ctr@hurlburt.af.mil.

Decal renewal

All personnel may update their 05-year vehicle decals for 07-year decals on a "first-come, first-served" basis. The two locations are: pass and registration, Building 90210 and visitor control center, Building 90048.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Aldrich Jones at 884-5233.

Thanksgiving buffet

The Soundside is taking reservations for the annual Members-Only Thanksgiving Buffet Nov. 24. Seating times are 11 a.m., noon, 1 and 2 p.m.

Members-only pricing is \$15.95 for adults, \$8.50 for children ages 5-11 and free for children age 4 and under. Advance payment and reservations are required. For more details and reservations, call The Soundside at 884-7507.

At the movies



Prices are \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 6-years-old and up. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field - 884-7648

Friday - Serenity (PG-13) Captain Malcolm Reynolds, a hardened veteran on the losing side of a galactic civil war, now ekes out a living pulling off small crimes and transport-for-hire aboard his ship, Serenity.

Saturday - The Greatest Game Ever Played (PG) An amateur player from a working class family, Francis shocked the golf world when at the 1913 U.S. Open, flanked by his 10-year-old caddie, he defeated his idol, the defending British champion Harry.

Sunday - An Unfinished Life (PG-13) Still in shock from his only son's death a decade ago, Einar has let his ranch fall into ruin along with his marriage. Now, Einar spends his days caring only for his hired handyman and last trusted friend, Mitch, who was gravely injured in an encounter with a grizzly bear.

Eglin - 882-1066

Friday - Lord of War (R) A wily arms dealer dodges bullets and betrayal as he schemes his way to the top of his profession, only to come face to face with his conscience. But it's not easy to leave a life of girls, guns and glamour when nobody wants you to stop, not even your enemies.

Saturday - The Black Cloud (PG-13) Black Cloud, is an inspirational story about a young Navajo, Native American boxer, who overcomes personal challenges as he comes to terms with his heritage, while fighting his way for a spot on the US Olympic boxing team.

Sunday - Two for the Money (R) A star college football player, at the top of his game, blows out his knee forcing him to choose a new profession. He winds up getting into the sports gambling business and is recruited by a man who runs a sports-bookings operations.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm dates.)

Base chapel



Catholic Mass
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:15 and 10 a.m.
Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request
Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday
Religious Education:
September - May

Protestant Services
Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (Traditional worship)
11:30 a.m. (Contemporary worship)
Religious Education: August - May
Youth and Singles groups available
Jewish Services (882-2111)
Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel Center
Muslim Services (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center
Jumua: Friday, 12:45 p.m.
For more information, call 884-7795.

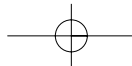
Airman Against Drunk Driving

For a free, confidential ride home, call AADD at 884-8844. Don't drink and drive.

24-hour Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline:

Hurlburt Field - 884-6322
Air Force - (800) 538-8429
Department of Defense - (800) 424-9098

Send all article ideas to
commando@hurlburt.af.mil



Military equal opportunity

Volunteers are needed for upcoming ethnic observances. The Hurlburt Field Military Equal Opportunity Office is seeking volunteers to serve as chair and co-chair for three upcoming ethnic observances.

This is a great chance to be a leader in organizing, coordinating and planning events to promote awareness and understanding in learning about different cultures. For more information, call the following point of contacts:

Martin Luther King Birthday, Jan. 16
Master Sgt. Norman Williams, 884-6844

African-American History Month, February
Master Sgt. Norman Williams, 884-6844

Women's History Month, March
Tech. Sgt. Jeannie Crosby 884-2631.

Caring and Sharing

Be a Caring and Sharing volunteer in South Santa Rosa County. Volunteers are needed to transport donated items, sort food, and assemble food boxes and more. For more information, call Debra Rasmussen at 883-1079 or 939-4756.

Greeting card contest

The 16th Services Squadron announces the 2005

Greeting Card Contest. This annual greeting card contest is open to all Hurlburt Field squadrons. Designers and builders may include family members. All greeting cards must have a holiday theme with no specific religious denominations. Winners will be announced at 4:30 p.m., Dec. 13 at the tree lighting ceremony.

Prizes totaling \$600 will be given away to the top three winners and top three honorable mentions. Squadrons not interested in competing are also invited to display their greeting cards at the main gate entrance.

Squadrons must bring completed cards to the main gate 8 a.m. – noon Dec. 6. For more information, e-mail charles.lowrey@hurlburt.af.mil.

Yard sale

The 16th Services Squadron is holding its annual yard sale at 7 a.m., Saturday on The Soundside grounds.

Tables may be rented to sell personal items. Cost is \$10 per six-foot table. For more information or to rent a table, call outdoor recreation at 884-6939.

Ladies' night

Ladies, enjoy a night of pampering 7 p.m. Dec. 2 at the base chapel and bring a friend. Free gifts and

food. Childcare is provided. For more information, call Angela Coburn at 864-6638 or email coburn-family777@wmconnect.com.

Classes

Register

Register now for college courses starting next year. Stop by Building 90220 to receive counseling and guidance to reach your educational goals. For more information, call 884-6724.

Online tuition requests

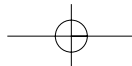
Active duty members can process their online tuition assistance requests through the Air Force Virtual Education Center by logging on to the Air Force Portal at <https://www.my.af.mil/gcss-af5/FAF/fafHome.jsp> and going to the "Career" or "Life" sections. For more information, call the education services office at 884-6724.

University of Arkansas

The University of Arkansas, located at Hurlburt Field, offers a master of science with a major in operations management. Complete your degree in one year. For more information, call 884-3844.

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Mario Webb drives the baseline on Eglin's Andre Benitez Sunday during the Commandos' 69-63 win in Aderholt Fitness Center. Webb was Hurlburt's second leading scorer with 15 points.

Photographs by Master Sgt. Stuart Camp

Commandos down Eglin 69-63

by Master Sgt.
Stuart Camp
16th SOW Public Affairs

Jermaine Rollins pumped in 18 points as the Hurlburt Field Commandos downed the Eglin Air Force Base Eagles 69-63 Sunday in Southeast Men's Athletic Conference basketball action in the Aderholt Fitness Center.

The Commandos and Eagles played a weekend series, each winning a game, on Hurlburt's home floor.

Commando coach Morris Sheldon admitted that the team is still finding its way.

"This was only our second game as a full squad," Sheldon said. "We had to have a second tryout (earlier this year) after we cancelled some games because we only had four players."

Nine Commandos took the court Sunday. Most of them, Sheldon explained, were drawn from the unorganized

pick-up games since intramural basketball season hasn't begun.

Thomas Jackson, Hurlburt's point guard, labeled the team "inexperienced" on the varsity level.

Each Commando player got playing time Sunday.

The Commandos fell behind quickly and in a big way – down 12 with six minutes left in the first half – fueled by the home team's inability to convert on four fast breaks.

Hurlburt slowly whittled the lead down – outscoring Eglin 13-2 before the half – sparked by John Phillips' three-pointer from the right wing, a pair of free-throws by Jackson and Mario Webb's trey with 1:09 remaining.

Hurlburt was down 30-29 at halftime. Webb, Jackson and Rollins had six points apiece at halftime to lead the Commandos. Eglin's Andre Benitez scorched the Hurlburt defense with five

Points scored

Name	Points
Rollins	18
Webb	15
Martin	13
Jackson	8
Acha-Ngwodo	6
Porter	4
Phillips	3

three-pointers for a first-half tally of 16 points.

The second half was a back-and-forth affair with five lead changes.

Eglin all but abandoned it's successful outside game to pound the ball inside to Frank Mordaci and Ensigne Williams. Hurlburt took command of the game with four minutes remaining – breaking a 59-59 deadlock and extending the lead to as much as nine points.

The Commandos' schedule continues at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., this weekend.

In the bleachers

Intramural cross country

The intramural cross-country season began this month and will include a total of five races. The course lengths range from two to six miles. The current schedule is today, Dec. 2 and 16 and Jan. 6. Teams must have a least five runners. If a squadron doesn't have enough runners for a team, interested participants will be placed in a runners' pool. For eligibility information, call 884-6884.

Turkey Trot

The 24th Annual 5K Turkey Trot is Wednesday at the Aderholt Fitness Center. The race is open to all ages, and participants may run, walk or rollerblade. Check-in time is 7:30 a.m.; race begins at 8 a.m. For more information, call the Aderholt Fitness Center at 884-6884 or the Commando Fitness Center at 884-4412.

10-mile Challenge

The 13th Annual 10-Mile Challenge is Dec. 10 at the Aderholt Fitness Center. Runners must register by noon Dec. 8 at any base fitness facility. Check in is 6-6:30 a.m.; race begins at 7 a.m. The race is free, and trophies will be given for many categories. Volunteers are needed for the event. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Katrina Stone at 884-6884.

Youth roller hockey

A pre-season youth roller hockey scrimmage and practice is Saturday at the main roller rink across from the youth center. Youth age 10 and under will meet 10 a.m. – noon; youth age 11 and older will meet noon to 2 p.m. Youth must have skates, a stick, gloves, a helmet, and knee-, shin- and elbow pads.

Flag football standings

Current as of Wednesday
National Conference

Team	W	L
SVS	7	1
RHS	7	1
MDG	6	2
LRS 2	5	3
23 STS	4	4
HMXS	4	5
SFS	4	5
CES 1	3	6
USCG	2	6
CES 2	0	0
MOS	0	9

American Conference

Team	W	L
OSS	8	2
CMS	7	2
LRS 1	7	2
25 IOS	8	3
CS	7	3
AMXS	6	3
EMS	6	5
MSS/AFSOC	5	6
4 SOS	3	7
AMMO	1	9
CPTS	1	9
16 SOS	1	9

For intramural sports information, call the Aderholt Fitness Center at 884-6884.



Commando forward Obele Acha-Ngwodo soars over Eglin defenders for a shot.